



# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

## news release

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### ROBERT GILMORE TO BECOME NEW ALASKA REGIONAL DIRECTOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ANNOUNCES

Robert E. Gilmore, associate director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Federal assistance program, will become the agency's new regional director in Alaska. He will replace the current Alaska director, Dr. Robert E. Putz, who has resigned for personal and family reasons.

Since 1983, Gilmore, 50, has supervised the Federal assistance program, which includes the Service's endangered species, Federal aid, and wildlife permit programs. During his tenure, Gilmore continued the agency's emphasis on recovery programs for endangered and threatened species and supervised the expansion of Federal support for State sport fishery restoration projects. He also began preparations for reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act and for the biennial meeting of the member nations of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, both scheduled for 1985.

Gilmore was born in West Palm Beach, Florida, and raised in Fairhope, Alabama. He began his wildlife management career in 1954 as a research assistant at Auburn University's cooperative wildlife research unit, where he also received a B.S. in wildlife management. Before joining the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in 1966, Gilmore held wildlife management positions with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, the U.S. Army, and U.S. Steel Corporation.

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Gilmore served as assistant refuge manager at Chassahowitzka and White River National Wildlife Refuges and as refuge manager at Back Bay National Wildlife Refuge. He held positions at a number of other field stations and in the Service's Portland, Oregon, regional office before coming to Washington, D.C. There he has supervised direction of the entire National Wildlife Refuge System as deputy associate director--wildlife resources.

As Alaska regional director, Gilmore will supervise the activities of one of that State's principal land managers. More than 76 million acres of land are included in 16 national wildlife refuges, and a large share of the Nation's waterfowl and migratory birds are produced in Alaska.

"Bob Gilmore brings a number of strengths to this position," Robert A. Jantzen, director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, said in today's announcement. "Chief among them are his experience in land management and his familiarity with the operation of the refuge system. He is also committed to our goal of an effective partnership in the management of Alaska's lands with the State, Native corporations, and the public."

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